

ECONOMIC INDICATORS QUEENSLAND

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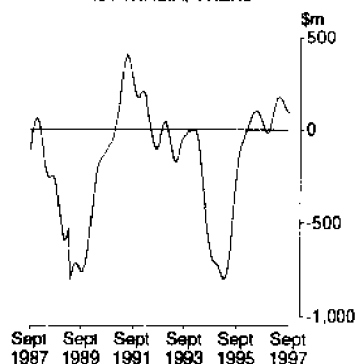
NOVEMBER KEY POINTS

AUSTRALIA

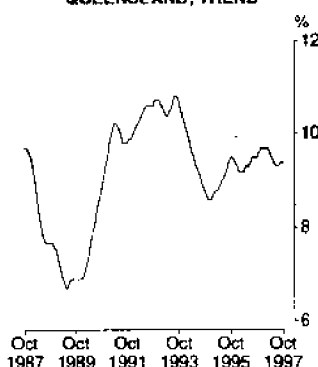
GOODS AND SERVICES

- The trend estimate of the balance on goods and services recorded a surplus of \$97m in September 1997, a decrease of \$17m from the figure recorded in August 1997.
- Exports of goods and services, in trend terms, increased \$100m from August 1997 to September 1997, continuing the upward movement since August 1996.
- Imports of goods and services, in trend terms, increased \$117m from August 1997 to September 1997, also continuing the upward movement since August 1996.

**BALANCE ON GOODS AND SERVICES,
AUSTRALIA, TREND**



**UNEMPLOYMENT RATE, PERSONS,
QUEENSLAND, TREND**



QUEENSLAND

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE

- For persons, remained stable, in trend terms, at 9.4% for September and October 1997. For males, in trend terms, remained stable at 9.6% for September and October 1997. For females, in trend terms, increased from 9.0% in September 1997 to 9.1% in October 1997.

DWELLING UNITS APPROVED

- Total dwelling units approved in Queensland, in trend terms, totalled 3,010 in September 1997, increasing 9.9% from September 1996 and 3.0% from August 1997.

INQUIRIES

- For further information about these and related statistics, contact the Inquiry Service on 07 3222 6351, or any ABS office.

ECONOMIC INDICATORS NOTES

FORTHCOMING ISSUES

ISSUE

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23 December 1997

CHANGES IN THIS ISSUE

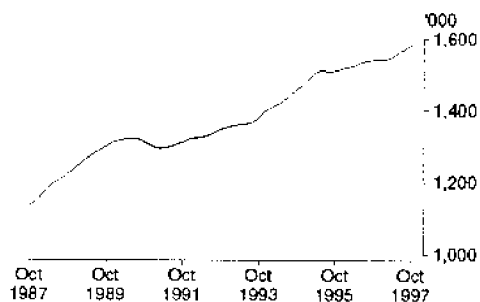
Nil.

BRIAN DOYLE

REGIONAL DIRECTOR, QUEENSLAND

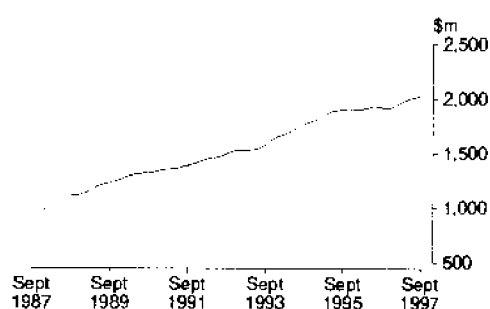
COMMENTARY

EMPLOYED PERSONS,
QUEENSLAND, TREND



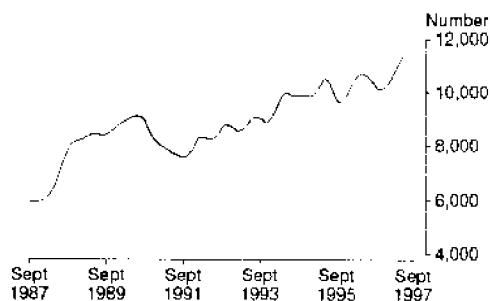
The number of employed persons in Queensland, in trend terms, was 1,582,800 in October 1997, a 2.7% increase over October 1996. Full-time employment for males increased 0.2% over September 1997, however, there was no change compared with October 1996. Female full-time employment increased 0.4% over September 1997 and 0.6% over October 1996.

RETAIL TRADE TURNOVER,
QUEENSLAND, TREND



Retail trade turnover in Queensland, in trend terms, increased for the tenth consecutive month, recording \$2,029.9m in September 1997. This was an increase of 5.4% over September 1996 and 0.4% over August 1997.

NEW MOTOR VEHICLE
REGISTRATIONS,
QUEENSLAND, TREND



In trend terms, the number of new motor vehicle registrations in Queensland for September 1997 was 11,697, an increase of 13.7% over September 1996 and 0.7% over August 1997.

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INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN GOODS AND SERVICES, Summary

EXPORTS IMPORTS

| Month | Balance on goods and services | Total goods and services | Total goods | Rural goods | Non- rural goods | Total services | Total goods and services | Total goods | Con- sumption goods | Capital goods | Inter- mediate and other goods | Total services |
|--------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------|----------------|------------------------|-------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------|---------------------------|------------------|--|-------------------|
| TREND (\$ million) | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1997 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| June | 170 | 8 969 | 6 871 | 2 025 | 4 846 | 2 098 | 8 799 | 6 851 | 1 907 | 1 649 | 3 295 | 1 948 |
| July | 146 | 9 068 | 6 954 | 2 050 | 4 904 | 2 114 | 8 922 | 6 955 | 1 959 | 1 647 | 3 349 | 1 967 |
| August | 114 | 9 155 | 7 029 | 2 075 | 4 954 | 2 126 | 9 041 | 7 055 | 2 003 | 1 645 | 3 407 | 1 986 |
| September | 97 | 9 255 | 7 120 | 2 107 | 5 013 | 2 135 | 9 158 | 7 157 | 2 041 | 1 639 | 3 477 | 2 001 |

% CHANGE FROM CORRESPONDING PERIOD OF PREVIOUS YEAR

| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-----------|----|------|------|------|------|-----|------|------|------|------|------|-----|
| 1997 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| September | .. | 12.8 | 14.2 | 17.6 | 12.9 | 8.2 | 12.1 | 13.4 | 17.5 | 11.2 | 12.2 | 7.6 |

BALANCE
ON
CURRENT
ACCOUNTFOREIGN INVESTMENT IN AUSTRALIA¹.....EXCHANGE RATE LEVELS²

TREND...

ORIGINAL

ORIGINAL

| Quarter | \$m | Official | Non-official | Net foreign debt | \$US/\$A | Yen/\$A | Trade-weighted index ³ |
|-----------|--------|----------|--------------|------------------|----------|---------|-----------------------------------|
| 1996 | | | | | | | |
| September | -4 627 | 81 405 | 362 415 | 195 386 | 0.7884 | 85.92 | 58.5 |
| December | -4 704 | 86 196 | 373 434 | 199 074 | 0.7953 | 89.72 | 59.4 |
| 1997 | | | | | | | |
| March | -4 617 | 85 310 | 376 125 | 197 673 | 0.7783 | 94.23 | 60.5 |
| June | -4 542 | 82 473 | 399 484 | 202 024 | 0.7692 | 92.16 | 56.7 |

% CHANGE FROM CORRESPONDING PERIOD OF PREVIOUS YEAR

| | | | | | | | |
|------|----|-----|------|-----|------|-----|------|
| 1997 | | | | | | | |
| June | .. | 4.8 | 11.1 | 7.7 | -2.8 | 8.3 | -2.4 |

¹ At end of period.² Source: Reserve Bank of Australia.³ Base: May 1970 = 100.0

MAJOR INDICATORS—Australia *continued*AUSTRALIA—NATIONAL ACCOUNTS¹.....

| Quarter | Final consumption expenditure | | Gross fixed capital expenditure | | Exports of goods and services | Imports of goods and services | Gross non-farm product -- income based | Gross domestic product -- income based |
|---------|-------------------------------|------------|---------------------------------|--------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|--|--|
| | Private | Government | Private | Public | | | | |

TREND (\$ million)

| | | | | | | | | |
|-------------|--------|--------|--------|-------|--------|--------|---------|---------|
| 1996 | | | | | | | | |
| September | 66 434 | 18 147 | 19 712 | 4 540 | 25 527 | 24 980 | 106 498 | 110 517 |
| December | 66 828 | 18 231 | 20 010 | 4 750 | 25 917 | 25 579 | 106 996 | 111 180 |
| 1997 | | | | | | | | |
| March | 67 272 | 18 395 | 20 315 | 5 027 | 26 439 | 26 402 | 107 586 | 111 875 |
| June | 67 724 | 18 547 | 20 942 | 5 124 | 26 866 | 27 252 | 108 282 | 112 600 |

TREND (% change from corresponding period of previous year)

| | | | | | | | | |
|-------------|-----|-----|-----|------|-----|------|-----|-----|
| 1997 | | | | | | | | |
| June | 2.4 | 1.8 | 8.6 | 12.8 | 6.3 | 11.1 | 2.2 | 2.6 |

ORIGINAL (\$ million)

| | | | | | | | | |
|-------------|--------|--------|--------|-------|--------|--------|---------|---------|
| 1996 | | | | | | | | |
| September | 66 201 | 18 046 | 19 585 | 3 560 | 25 265 | 25 939 | 106 056 | 108 932 |
| December | 70 084 | 18 569 | 21 294 | 4 575 | 26 557 | 26 073 | 111 186 | 119 282 |
| 1997 | | | | | | | | |
| March | 64 300 | 17 440 | 18 233 | 4 769 | 26 371 | 24 712 | 103 805 | 106 754 |
| June | 67 088 | 19 113 | 23 497 | 5 189 | 29 274 | 27 634 | 108 009 | 110 954 |

ORIGINAL (% change from corresponding period of previous year) —

| | | | | | | | | |
|-------------|-----|-----|------|-------|------|------|-----|-----|
| 1997 | | | | | | | | |
| June | 2.4 | 2.0 | 16.1 | -13.3 | 17.7 | 13.7 | 2.9 | 3.1 |

AUSTRALIA—NATIONAL ACCOUNTS¹COMPOSITE LEADING INDICATOR²

COMPANY PROFITS

| Quarter | Gross domestic product average | | Deviation from long-term trend | |
|---------|--------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|-----|
| | \$m | | % | \$m |

TREND

| | | | | |
|-------------|---------|----|--|-------|
| 1996 | | | | |
| September | 110 118 | .. | | 5 980 |
| December | 110 732 | .. | | 5 828 |
| 1997 | | | | |
| March | 111 516 | .. | | 5 760 |
| June | 112 359 | .. | | 5 738 |

TREND (% change from corresponding period of previous year)

| | | | | |
|-------------|-----|----|--|------|
| 1997 | | | | |
| June | 2.5 | .. | | -5.3 |

ORIGINAL

| | | | | |
|-------------|---------|------|--|-------|
| 1996 | | | | |
| September | 108 665 | 0.02 | | 6 043 |
| December | 118 665 | 0.19 | | 7 538 |
| 1997 | | | | |
| March | 106 051 | 0.36 | | 4 824 |
| June | 111 260 | 0.46 | | 4 684 |

ORIGINAL (% change from corresponding period of previous year)

| | | | | |
|-------------|-----|----|--|------|
| 1997 | | | | |
| June | 2.9 | .. | | -2.3 |

¹ At average 1989-90 prices.² See explanatory note 6, page 19.

MAJOR INDICATORS—Queensland

| Quarter | FINAL CONSUMPTION EXPENDITURE ¹ | | GROSS FIXED CAPITAL EXPENDITURE ¹ | | STATE FINAL DEMAND ¹ | GROSS STATE PRODUCT— INCOME BASED ¹ |
|--------------------|---|------------|---|--------|------------------------------------|--|
| | Private | Government | Private | Public | | |
| TREND (\$ million) | | | | | | |
| 1996 | | | | | | |
| September | 11 353 | 2 915 | 3 732 | 959 | 18 959 | 18 134 |
| December | 11 441 | 2 900 | 3 770 | 1 042 | 19 153 | 18 341 |
| 1997 | | | | | | |
| March | 11 521 | 2 890 | 3 794 | 1 199 | 19 404 | 18 531 |
| June | 11 594 | 2 883 | 3 819 | 1 332 | 19 628 | 18 689 |

TREND (% change from corresponding period of previous year)

| | | | | | | |
|-------------|-----|------|-----|------|-----|-----|
| 1997 | | | | | | |
| June | 2.9 | -0.9 | 5.5 | 35.0 | 4.5 | 4.3 |

ORIGINAL (\$ million)

| | | | | | | |
|-------------|--------|-------|-------|-------|--------|--------|
| 1996 | | | | | | |
| September | 11 361 | 2 923 | 3 837 | 696 | 18 817 | 18 085 |
| December | 11 998 | 2 927 | 3 905 | 1 080 | 19 910 | 18 483 |
| 1997 | | | | | | |
| March | 11 014 | 2 767 | 3 427 | 1 034 | 18 242 | 18 443 |
| June | 11 444 | 2 926 | 4 024 | 1 702 | 20 096 | 18 718 |

ORIGINAL (% change from corresponding period of previous year)

| | | | | | | |
|-------------|-----|------|-----|------|-----|-----|
| 1997 | | | | | | |
| June | 3.2 | -2.8 | 7.5 | 27.8 | 4.8 | 4.7 |

PRIVATE NEW CAPITAL EXPENDITURE.....

| Quarter | Building and structures | Equipment, plant and machinery | Total |
|--------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------------|-------|
| TREND (\$ million) | | | |
| 1996 | | | |
| September | 656 | 1 160 | 1 816 |
| December | 735 | 1 196 | 1 931 |
| 1997 | | | |
| March | 724 | 1 235 | 1 958 |
| June | 670 | 1 261 | 1 932 |

TREND (% change from corresponding period of previous year)

| | | | |
|-------------|------|------|------|
| 1997 | | | |
| June | 35.3 | 12.2 | 19.3 |

ORIGINAL (\$ million)

| | | | |
|-------------|-----|-------|-------|
| 1996 | | | |
| September | 625 | 1 119 | 1 745 |
| December | 735 | 1 162 | 1 897 |
| 1997 | | | |
| March | 747 | 1 086 | 1 833 |
| June | 615 | 1 487 | 2 102 |

ORIGINAL (% change from corresponding period of previous year)

| | | | |
|-------------|------|------|-----|
| 1997 | | | |
| June | -1.9 | 13.5 | 8.5 |

¹ At average 1989-90 prices.

| TOTAL BUSINESS NAMES REGISTERED ¹ | | BANKRUPTCIES ² | INTERSTATE TRADE ¹ | |
|---|---------|---------------------------|-------------------------------|---------|
| | | | Exports | Imports |
| Quarter | No. | No. | \$m | \$m |
| | | | | |
| 1996 | | | | |
| September | 176 668 | 1 225 | 1 528 | 3 372 |
| December | 178 440 | 1 156 | 1 479 | 3 478 |
| 1997 | | | | |
| March | 180 829 | 1 443 | 1 389 | 3 191 |
| June | 182 598 | 1 562 | 1 627 | 3 446 |

% CHANGE (from corresponding period of previous year)

| | | | | |
|-------------|-----|------|------|-----|
| 1997 | | | | |
| March | 2.8 | 37.2 | -8.4 | 2.4 |
| June | 3.4 | 48.6 | -2.5 | 1.5 |

FOREIGN TRADE.....

| Month | Exports | Imports |
|-------------|---------|---------|
| | \$m | \$m |
| 1997 | | |
| June | 1 127 | 755 |
| July | 1 413 | 789 |
| August | 1 453 | 821 |
| September | 1 446 | 771 |

% CHANGE (from corresponding period of previous year)

| | | |
|-------------|------|------|
| 1997 | | |
| August | 8.3 | 27.5 |
| September | 23.8 | 19.0 |

¹ Stock at end of period. Source: Office of Consumer Affairs.² Source: Insolvency and Trustee Service Australia.³ Source: Queensland Government Statistician.

PRODUCTION AND CONSUMPTION

AUSTRALIA—INDEXES OF MANUFACTURING GROSS PRODUCT¹

| Quarter | Food, beverages and tobacco | Textiles, clothing, footwear and leather | Chemicals, petroleum and coal | Metal products | Machinery and equipment | All groups |
|-----------|--------------------------------|---|----------------------------------|-------------------|----------------------------|------------|
| TREND | | | | | | |
| 1996 | | | | | | |
| September | 111.3 | 87.8 | 117.9 | 105.7 | 118.6 | 107.9 |
| December | 111.6 | 90.8 | 116.1 | 103.7 | 120.1 | 108.1 |
| 1997 | | | | | | |
| March | 112.1 | 94.0 | 116.1 | 101.6 | 121.0 | 108.8 |
| June | 112.0 | 96.0 | 117.3 | 99.6 | 121.7 | 109.5 |

TREND (% change from corresponding period of previous year)

| | | | | | | |
|------|-----|------|------|------|-----|-----|
| 1997 | | | | | | |
| June | 0.4 | 12.3 | -1.9 | -6.7 | 3.8 | 1.4 |

ORIGINAL

| | | | | | | |
|-----------|-------|------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| 1996 | | | | | | |
| September | 110.7 | 90.2 | 117.4 | 112.3 | 125.1 | 111.2 |
| December | 122.9 | 92.0 | 119.0 | 106.8 | 120.7 | 112.4 |
| 1997 | | | | | | |
| March | 105.4 | 91.1 | 110.9 | 92.5 | 116.5 | 102.3 |
| June | 108.5 | 94.2 | 120.1 | 100.0 | 123.2 | 109.5 |

ORIGINAL (% change from corresponding period of previous year)

| | | | | | | |
|------|-----|------|------|------|-----|-----|
| 1997 | | | | | | |
| June | 2.5 | 14.9 | -1.6 | -1.1 | 5.3 | 3.7 |

QUEENSLAND—SHORT-TERM ACCOMMODATION

LICENSED HOTELS, MOTELS WITH FACILITIES

SELF CONTAINED UNITS, FLATS AND HOUSES

| Quarter | Rooms available | Room nights occupied | Room occupancy rate | Takings from accommodation | Units available | Unit nights occupied | Unit occupancy rate | Takings from accommodation |
|-----------|--------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------------|
| | '000 | '000 | % | \$m | '000 | '000 | % | \$m |
| 1996 | | | | | | | | |
| September | 43.5 | 2 617 | 65.5 | 252.9 | 19.4 | 1 259 | 70.7 | 80.8 |
| December | 44.4 | 2 557 | 62.7 | 262.6 | 20.2 | 1 142 | 61.7 | 81.6 |
| 1997 | | | | | | | | |
| March | 44.5 | 2 289 | 57.3 | 229.9 | 20.0 | 1 028 | 57.3 | 75.9 |
| June | 45.1 | 2 293 | 56.4 | 220.6 | 20.2 | 862 | 47.0 | 56.2 |

% CHANGE (from corresponding period of previous year)

| | | | | | | | | |
|-------|-----|-----|----|-----|-----|-----|----|------|
| 1997 | | | | | | | | |
| March | 4.2 | 0.8 | .. | 1.3 | 6.0 | 2.8 | .. | 10.3 |
| June | 3.2 | 0.6 | .. | 1.1 | 7.1 | 1.8 | .. | 6.9 |

¹ At average 1989-90 prices. Base: 1989-90=100.0.

PRODUCTION AND CONSUMPTION *continued*

QUEENSLAND.....

MINERAL PRODUCTION.....

MINERAL
EXPLORATION

| | <i>Black coal (saleable)¹</i> | <i>Copper²</i> | <i>Gold²</i> | <i>Total²</i> | |
|--|--|---------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|------------|
| <i>Quarter</i> | <i>'000 tonnes</i> | <i>'000 tonnes</i> | <i>'000 kg</i> | <i>\$m</i> | <i>\$m</i> |
| 1996 | | | | | |
| September | 23 945.0 | 83.7 | 6.3 | 1 338.0 | 38.3 |
| December | 25 277.0 | 75.1 | 7.3 | 1 368.0 | 45.1 |
| 1997 | | | | | |
| March | 24 149.0 | 65.3 | 6.4 | 1 361.0 | 31.6 |
| June | 26 022.0 | 73.5 | 7.5 | 1 842.0 | 46.7 |
| % CHANGE (from corresponding period of previous year) | | | | | |
| 1997 | | | | | |
| March | 9.4 | 0.9 | -7.6 | 0.6 | -22.7 |
| June | 9.5 | -0.5 | 11.1 | 31.4 | -17.9 |

QUEENSLAND.....

RETAIL TRADE TURNOVER

NEW MOTOR VEHICLE REGISTRATIONS²

| | | <i>Passenger vehicles</i> | <i>Total</i> |
|---|------------|---------------------------|--------------|
| <i>Month</i> | <i>\$m</i> | <i>No.</i> | <i>No.</i> |
| TREND | | | |
| 1997 | | | |
| June | 2 000.8 | 9 181 | 11 343 |
| July | 2 011.3 | 9 313 | 11 500 |
| August | 2 021.0 | 9 397 | 11 611 |
| September | 2 029.9 | 9 448 | 11 697 |
| TREND (% change from corresponding period of previous year) | | | |
| 1997 | | | |
| August | 4.6 | 12.6 | 11.0 |
| September | 5.4 | 15.5 | 13.7 |
| ORIGINAL | | | |
| 1997 | | | |
| June | 1 869.6 | 10 901 | 13 961 |
| July | 2 015.3 | 10 022 | 12 345 |
| August | 1 984.0 | 8 809 | 10 749 |
| September | 1 979.8 | 9 532 | 11 712 |
| ORIGINAL (% change from corresponding period of previous year) | | | |
| 1997 | | | |
| August | 2.3 | 0.6 | -1.4 |
| September | 5.9 | 22.0 | 19.6 |

¹ Source: Queensland Coal Board.² Source: Queensland Department of Mines and Energy.

Excluding motor cycles, mobile equipment and trailers.



LABOUR AND DEMOGRAPHY—Queensland

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE.....

PARTICIPATION RATE.....

| | Persons aged 15 to 19 years | | | | | | |
|-------|-----------------------------|---------|---------|---|-------|---------|---------|
| | Males | Females | Persons | | Males | Females | Persons |
| Month | % | % | % | % | % | % | % |

TREND

| | | | | | | | |
|-------------|-----|-----|-----|------|------|------|------|
| 1997 | | | | | | | |
| July | 9.6 | 9.0 | 9.3 | n.a. | 73.9 | 55.3 | 64.5 |
| August | 9.6 | 9.0 | 9.3 | n.a. | 74.1 | 55.5 | 64.7 |
| September | 9.6 | 9.0 | 9.4 | n.a. | 74.2 | 55.7 | 64.8 |
| October | 9.6 | 9.1 | 9.4 | n.a. | 74.2 | 55.8 | 64.9 |

ORIGINAL

| | | | | | | | |
|-------------|-----|-----|-----|------|------|------|------|
| 1997 | | | | | | | |
| July | 9.0 | 8.2 | 8.7 | 20.2 | 74.1 | 55.1 | 64.5 |
| August | 9.6 | 9.1 | 9.4 | 20.0 | 73.5 | 54.6 | 64.0 |
| September | 9.1 | 8.8 | 9.0 | 22.0 | 74.0 | 56.3 | 65.0 |
| October | 8.9 | 8.3 | 8.6 | 19.2 | 74.5 | 55.8 | 65.1 |

EMPLOYED PERSONS.....

UNEMPLOYED PERSONS...

PERSONS IN
THE LABOUR
FORCE

FULL-TIME..... PART-TIME..... TOTAL

| Month | Full-time | | Part-time | | Total | | | |
|-------|-----------|---------|-----------|---------|---------|-------|---------|---------|
| | Males | Females | Males | Females | Persons | Males | Females | Persons |

| | | | | | | | | |
|-------------|--------------|-------|-------|-------|---------|------|------|-------|
| | TREND ('000) | | | | | | | |
| 1997 | | | | | | | | |
| July | 775.6 | 377.7 | 110.2 | 302.1 | 1 565.6 | 94.4 | 67.0 | 161.4 |
| August | 778.3 | 379.7 | 110.8 | 303.2 | 1 571.9 | 94.5 | 67.6 | 162.1 |
| September | 780.5 | 381.6 | 111.4 | 304.4 | 1 578.0 | 94.7 | 68.1 | 162.8 |
| October | 782.0 | 383.0 | 112.2 | 305.6 | 1 582.8 | 95.2 | 68.6 | 163.7 |

TREND (% change from corresponding period of previous year)

| | | | | | | | | |
|-------------|---|-----|------|-----|-----|-----|------|-----|
| 1997 | | | | | | | | |
| October | — | 0.6 | 13.1 | 9.3 | 2.7 | 1.7 | -0.2 | 0.9 |

ORIGINAL ('000)

| | | | | | | | | |
|-------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|---------|------|------|-------|
| 1997 | | | | | | | | |
| July | 790.7 | 382.0 | 103.7 | 300.6 | 1 577.0 | 88.8 | 61.2 | 150.0 |
| August | 772.4 | 379.9 | 110.4 | 292.2 | 1 555.0 | 93.7 | 67.1 | 160.8 |
| September | 781.3 | 382.9 | 113.0 | 312.2 | 1 589.4 | 90.1 | 67.4 | 157.4 |
| October | 787.1 | 382.5 | 117.9 | 312.1 | 1 599.6 | 88.0 | 62.6 | 150.6 |

ORIGINAL (% change from corresponding period of previous year)

| | | | | | | | | |
|-------------|-----|------|------|------|-----|------|------|------|
| 1997 | | | | | | | | |
| October | 0.4 | -0.1 | 21.7 | 12.0 | 3.7 | -3.7 | -0.3 | -2.3 |



LABOUR AND DEMOGRAPHY—Queensland *continued*

INDUSTRY OF EMPLOYED PERSONS.....

| | Mining | Manufacturing | Construction | Wholesale and retail trade | Accommodation, cafes and restaurants | Transport and storage | Finance and insurance | Property and business services | Government administration and defence | Education | Health and community services | Other | Total |
|-------------|--------|---------------|--------------|----------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------------------|-----------|-------------------------------|-------|---------|
| Quarter | '000 | '000 | '000 | '000 | '000 | '000 | '000 | '000 | '000 | '000 | '000 | '000 | '000 |
| 1996 | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| November | 20.6 | 168.8 | 129.9 | 328.6 | 86.3 | 83.9 | 47.7 | 147.6 | 65.3 | 108.6 | 147.4 | 215.4 | 1 550.1 |
| 1997 | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| February | 15.3 | 171.8 | 127.1 | 334.6 | 88.6 | 90.5 | 45.7 | 140.7 | 66.2 | 106.0 | 138.2 | 216.0 | 1 540.7 |
| May | 14.8 | 180.5 | 122.6 | 325.0 | 85.2 | 83.3 | 44.9 | 139.8 | 64.9 | 116.0 | 145.1 | 221.3 | 1 543.4 |
| August | 11.4 | 178.1 | 118.7 | 317.4 | 77.3 | 87.2 | 46.0 | 150.2 | 59.0 | 115.2 | 148.7 | 245.7 | 1 554.9 |

% CHANGE (from corresponding period of previous year)

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-------------|-------|-----|------|------|------|------|------|-----|------|-----|-----|------|-----|
| 1997 | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| August | -42.1 | 7.7 | -7.8 | -2.7 | -5.5 | -0.1 | -1.9 | 8.7 | -5.0 | 6.9 | 6.5 | 10.2 | 1.9 |

EMPLOYED WAGE AND SALARY EARNERS.....

PRIVATE

GOVERNMENT.....

| | Total | Commonwealth | State | Local | Total |
|-------------|-------|--------------|-------|-------|-------|
| Month | '000 | '000 | '000 | '000 | '000 |
| 1996 | | | | | |
| August | 884.3 | 39.8 | 208.1 | 34.7 | 282.6 |
| November | 891.7 | 39.3 | 208.1 | 36.5 | 283.9 |
| 1997 | | | | | |
| February | 872.7 | 38.8 | 203.4 | 36.5 | 278.8 |
| May | 884.2 | 37.2 | 209.2 | 38.8 | 285.1 |

% CHANGE (from corresponding period of previous year)

| | | | | | |
|-------------|------|-------|-----|------|------|
| 1997 | | | | | |
| May | -1.5 | -17.9 | 1.3 | 11.5 | -0.5 |

AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS (full-time adult)

JOB VACANCIES

OVERTIME.....

| | Males | Females | | Average weekly hours per employee |
|-------------|--------|---------|------|-----------------------------------|
| Quarter | \$ | \$ | '000 | Hours |
| 1996 | | | | |
| November | 679.00 | 579.80 | 9.0 | 1.01 |
| 1997 | | | | |
| February | 697.20 | 581.80 | 12.2 | 0.99 |
| May | 697.60 | 591.90 | 12.1 | 0.94 |
| August | 702.60 | 591.20 | 16.7 | 0.88 |

% CHANGE (from corresponding quarter of previous year)

| | | | | |
|-------------|-----|-----|------|-------|
| 1997 | | | | |
| May | 5.4 | 6.9 | 65.8 | -21.7 |
| August | 5.6 | 3.8 | 85.6 | -9.3 |



LABOUR AND DEMOGRAPHY—Queensland *continued*

ESTIMATED RESIDENT POPULATION

POPULATION GROWTH DURING PERIOD.....

| | | <i>Natural increase</i> | <i>Net estimated interstate migration</i> | <i>Net estimated overseas migration</i> | <i>Total</i> |
|----------------|-------------|-------------------------|---|---|--------------|
| <i>Quarter</i> | <i>'000</i> | <i>No.</i> | <i>No.</i> | <i>No.</i> | <i>No.</i> |
| 1996 | | | | | |
| June | 3 339.1 | 6 151 | 6 662 | 2 843 | 15 656 |
| September | 3 357.7 | 5 901 | 7 947 | 4 717 | 18 565 |
| December | 3 374.3 | 5 636 | 8 233 | 2 748 | 16 617 |
| 1997 | | | | | |
| March | 3 392.9 | 6 974 | 6 861 | 4 806 | 18 641 |

% CHANGE (from corresponding period of previous year)

| | | | | | |
|-------------|-----|------|-------|-----|-------|
| 1997 | | | | | |
| March | 2.1 | -7.2 | -37.5 | 9.4 | -18.5 |

ESTIMATED RESIDENT POPULATION AT 30 JUNE.....

| | <i>Brisbane¹</i> | <i>Moreton¹</i> | <i>Wide Bay-Burnett¹</i> | <i>Far North¹</i> | <i>Queensland</i> |
|----------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------|
| <i>Year</i> | <i>'000</i> | <i>'000</i> | <i>'000</i> | <i>'000</i> | <i>'000</i> |
| 1992-93 | 1 421.6 | 533.7 | 209.3 | 190.4 | 3 116.0 |
| 1993-94 | 1 454.4 | 558.7 | 216.1 | 195.7 | 3 196.1 |
| 1994-95 | 1 488.9 | 584.2 | 222.5 | 200.9 | 3 277.1 |
| 1995-96 | 1 525.5 | 606.0 | 227.7 | 206.0 | 3 354.7 |

INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES

AWARD RATES OF PAY INDEXES²

SHORT-TERM OVERSEAS MOVEMENT

FULL-TIME ADULT EMPLOYEES

ARRIVALS

DEPARTURES

| | <i>Working days lost</i> | <i>Males</i> | <i>Females</i> | | |
|--------------|--------------------------|------------------|------------------|-------------|-------------|
| <i>Month</i> | <i>'000</i> | <i>Index No.</i> | <i>Index No.</i> | <i>'000</i> | <i>'000</i> |
| 1997 | | | | | |
| May | 33.0 | 147.1 | 150.5 | 124.3 | 121.0 |
| June | 7.4 | 147.1 | 150.5 | 139.7 | 129.7 |
| July | 7.2 | n.a. | n.a. | 170.1 | 142.9 |
| August | 3.5 | n.a. | n.a. | 151.5 | 163.5 |

% CHANGE (from corresponding period of previous year)

| | | | | | |
|-------------|----|------|------|-----|-----|
| 1997 | | | | | |
| July | .. | n.a. | n.a. | 4.7 | 1.5 |
| August | .. | n.a. | n.a. | 2.3 | 1.6 |

¹ Statistical Division.

² Base: June 1985 = 100.0.

BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION--Queensland

BUILDING APPROVALS.....

TREND.....

ORIGINAL.....

| | <i>New houses</i> | <i>Total dwelling units</i> | <i>New houses</i> | <i>New other residential buildings</i> | <i>Total dwelling units</i> | <i>Value of dwelling units approved</i> | <i>Value of non-residential buildings approved</i> | <i>Total value of all building approved</i> |
|--------------|-------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------|--|-----------------------------|---|--|---|
| <i>Month</i> | <i>No.</i> | <i>No.</i> | <i>No.</i> | <i>No.</i> | <i>No.</i> | <i>\$m</i> | <i>\$m</i> | <i>\$m</i> |
| 1997 | | | | | | | | |
| June | 2 011 | 2 794 | 1 937 | 602 | 2 546 | 243.8 | 128.7 | 392.1 |
| July | 2 017 | 2 848 | 2 104 | 941 | 3 363 | 330.5 | 535.1 | 888.0 |
| August | 2 032 | 2 922 | 2 284 | 737 | 3 094 | 301.7 | 293.6 | 622.6 |
| September | 2 053 | 3 010 | 2 293 | 1 181 | 3 491 | 361.7 | 255.9 | 643.9 |

% CHANGE (from corresponding period of previous year)

| | | | | | | | | |
|-------------|-----|-----|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| 1997 | | | | | | | | |
| September | 7.0 | 9.9 | 16.8 | 91.1 | 34.6 | 45.7 | -2.7 | 20.1 |

DWELLING UNIT COMMENCEMENTS.....

ENGINEERING CONSTRUCTION

| | <i>New houses</i> | <i>New other residential buildings</i> | <i>Value of new residential building</i> | <i>Value of non-residential building</i> | <i>Value of work commenced</i> | <i>Value of work done</i> |
|----------------|-------------------|--|--|--|--------------------------------|---------------------------|
| <i>Quarter</i> | <i>No.</i> | <i>No.</i> | <i>\$m</i> | <i>\$m</i> | <i>\$m</i> | <i>\$m</i> |
| 1996 | | | | | | |
| September | 5 691 | 2 142 | 769.1 | 551.2 | 1 175.9 | 896.7 |
| December | 6 281 | 2 173 | 859.6 | 613.9 | 1 032.1 | 916.4 |
| 1997 | | | | | | |
| March | 4 985 | 2 428 | 721.0 | 511.2 | 723.5 | 793.4 |
| June | 5 863 | 2 119 | 792.8 | 477.0 | 682.0 | 991.1 |

% CHANGE (from corresponding period of previous year)

| | | | | | | |
|-------------|------|------|------|-------|------|------|
| 1997 | | | | | | |
| March | 3.1 | 18.9 | 8.2 | -13.6 | 17.5 | 17.7 |
| June | -3.7 | -1.3 | -7.7 | -34.8 | 9.5 | 23.6 |



PRICE INDEXES

AUSTRALIA.....

Articles produced by manufacturing industry¹..... Materials used in manufacturing industry² Export² Import²

| Quarter | Food, beverages and tobacco | Basic metal products | Petroleum and coal products | Transport equipment | Fabricated metal products | All groups | Imported materials | Domestic materials | All materials | All groups | All groups |
|-------------|-----------------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------------|---------------------------------|------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|------------------|------------|------------|
| 1996 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| December | 127.0 | 101.6 | 134.9 | 121.7 | 120.6 | 121.5 | 109.6 | 104.2 | 106.1 | 91.1 | 108.5 |
| 1997 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| March | 127.3 | 103.5 | 138.3 | 121.8 | 121.0 | 122.2 | 108.9 | 105.1 | 106.3 | 92.0 | 108.4 |
| June | 128.1 | 105.7 | 125.7 | 121.6 | 121.3 | 122.3 | 108.1 | 104.0 | 105.4 | 93.4 | 107.9 |
| September | 129.0 | 108.2 | 121.1 | 122.1 | 121.4 | 122.9 | 109.9 | 104.6 | 106.5 | 95.9 | 110.8 |

% CHANGE (from corresponding period of previous year)

| | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-------------|-----|-----|------|------|-----|-----|------|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| 1997 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| September | 2.1 | 4.2 | -0.4 | -0.2 | 1.3 | 1.6 | -0.8 | 1.1 | 0.4 | 3.1 | 1.3 |

BRISBANE.....

QUEENSLAND.....

Consumer price index³..... Established house² Prices received by farmers² Prices paid by farmers⁴ Farmers' terms of trade⁴

| Quarter | Food | Housing | Transportation | All groups | Established house ² | Prices received by farmers ² | Prices paid by farmers ⁴ | Farmers' terms of trade ⁴ |
|-------------|-------|---------|----------------|------------|--------------------------------|---|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1996 | | | | | | | | |
| December | 118.0 | 109.6 | 123.3 | 120.8 | 136.1 | 103.0 | 127.9 | 78.3 |
| 1997 | | | | | | | | |
| March | 119.8 | 106.4 | 124.4 | 121.5 | 136.0 | 102.9 | 126.6 | 80.7 |
| June | 119.9 | 103.0 | 123.7 | 121.1 | 139.0 | 105.6 | 128.6 | 82.1 |
| September | 118.7 | 102.4 | 123.7 | 120.7 | n.y.a. | n.y.a. | n.y.a. | n.y.a. |

% CHANGE (from corresponding period of previous year)

| | | | | | | | | |
|-------------|-----|------|-----|-----|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| 1997 | | | | | | | | |
| June | 1.8 | -8.4 | 1.3 | 0.6 | 1.4 | -4.2 | 0.9 | -2.6 |
| September | 0.8 | -8.9 | 1.2 | 0.1 | n.y.a. | n.y.a. | n.y.a. | n.y.a. |

BRISBANE.....

Materials used in house building³

Materials used in building other than house².....

| Quarter | All groups | Structural steel | Ready-mixed concrete | All groups |
|-------------|------------|------------------|----------------------|------------|
| 1996 | | | | |
| December | 114.8 | 137.2 | 103.1 | 115.5 |
| 1997 | | | | |
| March | 115.4 | 136.1 | 104.2 | 116.1 |
| June | 116.5 | 136.1 | 107.3 | 116.9 |
| September | 116.8 | 137.8 | 108.8 | 117.5 |

% CHANGE (from corresponding period of previous year)

| | | | | |
|-------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| 1997 | | | | |
| September | 2.1 | 0.4 | 6.4 | 2.0 |

¹ Base: 1988-89=100.0.

⁴ Base: 1989-90=100.0.

² Source: Australian Bureau of Agriculture and Resource Economics

⁴ Base: 1987-88=100.0.

BANKING AND FINANCE

QUEENSLAND—ALL BANKS¹

QUEENSLAND—BUILDING SOCIETIES

DEPOSITS

LOANS

LENDING OPERATIONS

| | Term | Other ² | Total | Other lending | Loans advanced | Lending commitments unused | Receipts | Withdrawals |
|-------------|--------|--------------------|--------|---------------|----------------|----------------------------|----------|-------------|
| Month | \$m | \$m | \$m | \$m | \$m | \$m | \$m | \$m |
| 1997 | | | | | | | | |
| May | 24 301 | 21 344 | 45 645 | 58 629 | 66.5 | 96.3 | 928.6 | 899.1 |
| June | 23 716 | 21 568 | 45 284 | 59 366 | 68.5 | 86.3 | 938.9 | 950.6 |
| July | 23 619 | 22 872 | 46 491 | 61 040 | 65.7 | 91.5 | 1 134.0 | 1 103.5 |
| August | 23 252 | 23 067 | 46 319 | 61 025 | 65.4 | 93.0 | 988.4 | 955.6 |

% CHANGE (from corresponding period of previous year)

| | | | | | | | | |
|-------------|-----|------|------|------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| 1997 | | | | | | | | |
| August | 9.7 | 31.9 | 19.7 | 17.0 | -51.8 | -40.2 | -65.7 | -66.1 |

QUEENSLAND—FINANCE COMMITMENTS

PERSONAL

COMMERCIAL

LEASE

| | All banks | Credit cooperatives | Finance companies | Other | Total | All banks | Finance companies | Other | Total | Total |
|-------------|-----------|---------------------|-------------------|-------|-------|-----------|-------------------|-------|---------|-------|
| Month | \$m | \$m | \$m | \$m | \$m | \$m | \$m | \$m | \$m | \$m |
| 1997 | | | | | | | | | | |
| May | 457.9 | 38.7 | 77.3 | 13.3 | 587.2 | 1 307.8 | 152.5 | 101.6 | 1 561.9 | 155.1 |
| June | 470.2 | 37.1 | 104.1 | 14.9 | 626.2 | 1 756.3 | 169.9 | 90.1 | 2 016.2 | 250.9 |
| July | 540.6 | 41.0 | 85.4 | 19.4 | 686.4 | 2 302.4 | n.p. | n.p. | 2 575.1 | 176.8 |
| August | 474.1 | 36.7 | 98.0 | 26.0 | 634.8 | 1 268.3 | n.p. | n.p. | 1 505.1 | 152.8 |

% CHANGE (from corresponding period of previous year)

| | | | | | | | | | | |
|-------------|------|-----|-----|------|------|-----|------|------|-----|------|
| 1997 | | | | | | | | | | |
| August | 36.5 | 3.2 | 9.0 | 32.7 | 28.9 | 2.1 | n.p. | n.p. | 2.6 | 10.0 |

QUEENSLAND—HOUSING FINANCE FOR OWNER OCCUPATION

AUSTRALIA—INTEREST RATES

| | All banks | Permanent building societies | Other lenders | Total | Housing loans for owner occupation |
|-------------|-----------|------------------------------|---------------|-------|------------------------------------|
| Month | \$m | \$m | \$m | \$m | % |
| 1997 | | | | | |
| May | 603.9 | 44.3 | 59.4 | 707.6 | 7.2 |
| June | 578.8 | 40.6 | 86.8 | 706.2 | 7.2 |
| July | 653.1 | 47.1 | 77.3 | 777.5 | 7.2 |
| August | 620.7 | 45.2 | 72.7 | 738.5 | 6.7 |

% CHANGE (from corresponding period of previous year)

| | | | | | |
|-------------|-----|-------|------|-----|----|
| 1997 | | | | | |
| August | 3.0 | -41.9 | 29.9 | 0.3 | .. |

¹ Source: Reserve Bank of Australia. ² Including certificates of deposit. ³ Excluding non-resident lending.



BUSINESS EXPECTATIONS

AUSTRALIA..... QUEENSLAND

TRADING PERFORMANCE..... INVESTMENT... EMPLOY- MENT OPERATING EXPENSES INTERNATIONAL TRADE SALES

| Quarter | Sales | Selling prices | Profit | Capital | Stocks | Imports | Exports |
|---------|-------|----------------|--------|---------|--------|---------|---------|
|---------|-------|----------------|--------|---------|--------|---------|---------|

SHORT-TERM OUTLOOK—Expected aggregate change from the previous quarter (%)

1997

| | | | | | | | | | | |
|-----------|-----|-----|------|-----|------|------|-----|-----|-----|------|
| March | 0.4 | 0.1 | -2.9 | 5.8 | 0.1 | -0.4 | 0.8 | 0.5 | 0.6 | -0.4 |
| June | 1.6 | 0.3 | 7.8 | 5.4 | -0.3 | .. | 1.0 | 5.9 | 1.6 | 1.4 |
| September | 0.7 | 0.1 | -1.4 | 3.2 | -0.1 | -0.1 | 0.9 | 1.9 | 1.3 | 0.9 |
| December | 3.0 | 0.2 | 14.3 | 6.2 | -0.4 | -0.2 | 1.6 | 3.7 | 3.9 | 2.7 |

MEDIUM-TERM OUTLOOK—Expected aggregate change from the corresponding quarter of the previous year (%)

1997

| | | | | | | | | | | |
|----------|-----|-----|-----|-----|----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| December | 3.1 | 0.9 | 9.6 | 1.2 | .. | 0.3 | 2.2 | 2.1 | 3.4 | 3.3 |
|----------|-----|-----|-----|-----|----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|

1998

| | | | | | | | | | | |
|-----------|-----|-----|------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| March | 2.9 | 0.9 | 12.2 | 3.2 | 0.3 | 0.5 | 1.8 | 3.0 | 3.8 | 2.8 |
| June | 2.4 | 0.7 | 12.3 | 3.7 | 0.2 | 0.1 | 1.3 | 2.6 | 4.5 | 1.8 |
| September | 3.9 | 0.7 | 21.0 | 6.2 | 0.9 | 0.4 | 2.0 | 5.8 | 6.6 | 4.1 |

AUSTRALIA.....

ACTUAL CAPITAL EXPENDITURE.....

| Period | New buildings and structures \$m | Equipment, plant and machinery \$m | Total \$m |
|---------|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------|
| 1995-96 | 12 348 | 28 124 | 40 473 |
| 1996-97 | 14 265 | 29 490 | 43 756 |

AUSTRALIA.....

EXPECTED CAPITAL EXPENDITURE¹.....

| Period | New buildings and structures \$m | Equipment, plant and machinery \$m | Total \$m |
|---------------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------|
| 6 months to December 1997 | 7 031 | 13 933 | 20 964 |
| 6 months to June 1998 | 6 409 | 12 071 | 18 480 |
| 1997-98 | 13 440 | 26 004 | 39 444 |

¹ Not directly comparable with estimates of actual capital expenditure due to likely over/under realisation.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

INTRODUCTION

1 This publication contains latest estimates for a comprehensive range of economic indicators. Statistics shown in this publication are the latest available at the date of preparation. In a number of cases figures appearing in this publication are preliminary and are subject to revision in subsequent issues. Reference should therefore always be made to the latest issue or to the statistical publication on the specific subject.

SEASONAL ADJUSTMENT AND TREND ESTIMATION

2 Seasonal adjustment is a means of removing the estimated effects of normal seasonal variation from the series so that the effects of other influences on the series can be more clearly recognised. Seasonal adjustment does not aim to remove the irregular or non-seasonal influences which may be present in any particular month. This means that month-to-month movements of the seasonally adjusted estimates may not be reliable indicators of trend behaviour.

3 The smoothing of seasonally adjusted series reduces the impact of the irregular components of the seasonally adjusted series and creates trend estimates. These trend estimates are derived by applying a 13-term Henderson-weighted moving average to all months except the last six. The last six monthly trend estimates are obtained by applying surrogates of the Henderson average to the seasonally adjusted series. Trend series are used to analyse the underlying behaviour of the series over time.

4 While this smoothing technique enables estimates to be produced for the latest month, it does result in revisions to the most recent months as additional observations become available. Generally, subsequent revisions become smaller and after 3 months have a negligible impact on the series. Revisions also occur as a result of the annual review of seasonal factors.

5 Users may wish to refer to the ABS Publication: *A Guide to Interpreting Time Series — Monitoring 'Trends', An Overview* (1348.0) for more detailed information on smoothing seasonally adjusted time series data.

COMPOSITE LEADING INDICATOR

6 The ABS has developed an experimental Composite Leading Indicator (CLI) which summarises the early signals contained in a selection of economic indicators. The CLI is calculated as a simple average of the short-medium term movements in eight indicators. On average during the 1970s and 1980s, the CLI led turning points in the GDP(A) growth cycle by around two quarters, but the lead time for individual peaks and troughs varied considerably.

7 Expansions and slow downs in activity are measured relative to the historical long-term trend; thus *peaks and troughs in the CLI provide early signals of turning points in the growth cycle*, not signals of recessions and recoveries.

RELATED PUBLICATIONS

8 Current publications produced by the ABS are listed in the *Catalogue of Publications and Products* (1101.0). The ABS also issues, on Tuesdays and Fridays, the *Release Advice* (1105.0) which lists publications to be released in the next few days. The *Catalogue* and *Release Advice* are available from any ABS office.

UNPUBLISHED STATISTICS

9 As well as the statistics included in this and related publications, the ABS may have other relevant unpublished data available. Inquiries should be made to Information Inquiries on (07) 3222 6351 or to any ABS office.

EFFECTS OF ROUNDING

10 Estimates have been rounded and discrepancies may occur between totals and sums of the component items.

SYMBOLS AND OTHER USAGES

| | | | |
|--------|-------------------------------|----|------------------------|
| n.a. | not available | .. | not applicable |
| n.y.a. | not yet available | — | nil or rounded to zero |
| n.p. | not available for publication | | |



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